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S E C R E T COLOMBO 000510

SIPDIS

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 1.6X1

TAGS: [ASEC](#) [PTER](#)

SUBJECT: WALK-IN CLAIMS LOCAL PASSPORT VENDOR HELPED FOUR
SRI LANKAN MUSLIMS TRAVEL TO AFGHANISTAN

REF: 03 COLOMBO 1810

Classified By: Alex Moore, Regional Security Officer, Reason: Intelligence Sources/Methods, Declassify: Exempt, Reason: 1.6 (X1)

This cable is a retransmission of Colombo 00491 due to upgrade of declassification exemption. Please destroy all copies of Colombo 0491.

11. (S/NF) On March 18, a confidential source of undetermined reliability but known to RSO and ORCA New Delhi contacted the RSO to pass new information and advise he will be relocating to Abu Dhabi for work. Source is identified as Mohamed Ilyars Mohamed HUNU, DPOB 12/15/1972 - Sri Lanka, National Identity Number 723501008V, SL PPT# L0130138 (protect).

12. (S/NF) Source advised that the local passport vendor he had reported on in the past, Al-Hagg Illyas Faleel (see reftel), had recently helped four Sri Lankan Muslims travel to Afghanistan. When pressed for additional details, such as the names of the travelers, their purpose, or their routes of travel, Source was unable to elaborate but advised he would attempt to get additional information. Source offered that he believed the individuals departed Sri Lanka on/about March

12. In addition, Source advised Al-Hagg's father, who is a former member of Parliament, is currently a candidate for Parliament in the April 2 election as candidate number 11.

13. (S/NF) Source also mentioned an unnamed "crazy man" who is a radical Muslim who talks of building a large explosive, possibly targeting a tourist bus in Sri Lanka. Source speculated that the unidentified man has a thick "catalog" of weapons but does not at this time have the financing or means to fulfill his threats. RSO asked the Source to obtain additional details on the man in question.

14. (S/NF) Finally, Source advised that he would soon be departing Sri Lanka to take new employment in Abu Dhabi. Source will be traveling to Abu Dhabi on March 22 via EY 202. Source will be employed in Abu Dhabi as a security officer at the Beach Rotana Hotel (971-2-644-3000). RSO told the Source that his relocation to Abu Dhabi would be reported to appropriate authorities (ORCA New Delhi), and he may be contacted by U.S. Embassy personnel at some time in the future. Source provided current phone numbers in Colombo as 034-222-7851 and 034-2222787.

15. (S/NF) RSO Comment: Source is known to RSO and ORCA New Delhi, but the reliability of his information has yet to be proven. RSO and ORCA have evaluated that the potential value of Source's information lies in his knowledge of possible U.S. document forgeries within the Sri Lankan Muslim community. As reported in reftel, Source presented a good quality forged Sri Lankan passport and National Identity card, each containing his photograph and assumed identity. The information regarding Source's relocation is passed to the Department in the event that ORCA wants to continue communication with him while he is in Abu Dhabi. Regarding Al-Hagg, RSO reported the document vendor's alleged activities (which includes forging U.S. passports) to the Sri Lankan Directorate of Internal Intelligence in October 2003 but no action has been taken to date. RSO will schedule a meeting next week with the police CID and attempt to energize a police investigation into Al-Hagg's activities in an effort to disrupt his illegal operation. RSO will also relay information on Al-Hagg's father as a candidate for Parliament. Colombo point of contact is RSO Alex Moore (94-11-244-8007).
LUNSTEAD